(b) the details of the percentage increase in the present production assessed after the implementation of these Plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Several important steps have been taken to increase oil and gas production, which include the following:

(i) to improve the recovery factor from existing major fields by implementing Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) schemes; in particular Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has taken up 15 fields for this purpose at an estimated investment of Rs. 10,000 crore, which would also help in accelerating oil production from these fields.

(ii) to increase exploration efforts through the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). Under the three rounds of NELP, Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) have been signed for 70 blocks.

(iii) to explore in new areas, especially in deep water and difficult frontier areas, as also explore in the deeper layers of the producing fields.

(iv) to develop faster the newly discovered fields and to step up the use of new technologies for seismic surveys, work over, stimulation operations, drilling of wells etc. in producing areas.

(b) As a result of measures taken, the crude oil production has shown an increase of about 3.3% during April-January 2003 over the corresponding period in 2001-02.

ONGC's projects in Syria

1321. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MISS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC has recently acquired oil stakes in Syria, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of investment made in that country and the benefits that have been and are being drawn from the ventures there and in what manner this has helped to conserve and preserve oil reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR):(a) and (b) The contract for the exploration, development and production of petroleum, between Syrian Petroleum Company and ONGC-Videsh Ltd. (OVL)/IPR consortium has not been finalized as of today.

Target for production of Crude Oil

†1322. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a target was fixed for the oil companies for production of crude oil in the country;

(b) if so, the target fixed for each company engaged in production of oil in 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003;

(c) the percentage of production by each oil company in the above period in comparison to the target fixed; and

(d) the reasons for not achieving the production as per the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR):(a) to (c) The target fixed for production of crude oil in the country and the percentage of achievement by oil producing companies during the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03.

Period	2001-01			2001-02			2002-03 (April 02-Dec.02)		
Company	ONGC	OIL	Pvt. /JV. Co.	ONGC	OIL	Pvt. /JV Co.	ONGC	OIL	Pvt./JV. Co.
Target	24.600	3.39	3.97	25.201	3.45	3.85	19.124	2.568	2.90 Pro-rata basis)
Actual Production	25.057	3.286	4.08	24.708	3.183	4.14	19.542	2.240	3.12
% achievement	101.9	97	102.8	98.1	92	107.5	102.2	87.23	107.6

ONGC : Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.

OIL: Oil India Ltd.

Pvt/JV. Co.: Private/Joint Venture Companies

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.